

## MARIE SKŁODOWSKA CURIE

1867-1934

Madame Marie Skłodowska Curie died at Sallanches, France, on July 4th, 1934, aged 66 years. For the last several years she had been in failing health, and her death was due to pernicious anemia, in all probability resulting from long exposure to radium. Madame Curie was born in Warsaw, Poland, July 7th, 1867.

She was married to Prof. Pierre Curie in Paris in 1895. Following the discovery by Becquerel of radioactivity in uranium they began their efforts to identify the radioactive element, and in 1898 they succeeded in isolating radium metal from pitchblende. In later years most of her researches were directed to the study of the remarkable physical properties of polonium, a decomposition product of radium, which proved to be of great value to the science of physics. After the death of her husband, in 1906, she was appointed to succeed him as professor of physics in the University of Paris. In 1911 she received the Nobel prize, and later many other honors and prizes were awarded to her. The most significant was the establishment, by the University of Paris, of the Radium Institute, in which she was appointed head of the research department, a position which she occupied actively until her death.

In 1921 she visited America to receive the gift of a gram of radium secured by American admirers, chiefly women, and presented by President Harding. At this time she visited many physical laboratories and several cancer hospitals and attended many complimentary functions. She took a keen and highly intelligent interest in the application of radium to the treatment of cancer. She returned to America in 1929 to receive a gift of \$50,000 raised by many friends and presented by President Hoover at the National Academy of Science in Washington. In 1930 she was elected an Honorary Fellow of The New York Academy of Medicine.



Madame Curie remained throughout her life a woman of simple tastes and modest requirements. She received her numerous honors with graceful reserve, but full appreciation. She was extremely direct and simple in her approach to every problem. She was always ready to discuss freely any subject in which she felt herself competent, but was chary of speculations and predictions. In her death passes one of the most cultivated feminine minds and distinguished investigators in the history of science.

JAMES EWING.

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#### DEATH OF FELLOW OF THE ACADEMY

LEALE, MEDWIN, B.A., M.D., 555 Park Avenue, New York City; graduated in medicine from the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York City, in 1896; elected a Fellow of the Academy December 3, 1908; died, June 30, 1934. Dr. Leale was a Fellow of the American Medical Association, a member of the County and State Medical Societies, The Pathological Society, the Roosevelt Hospital Alumni Association and the Alumni Association of St. John's Guild. He was Consulting Physician to St. John's Hospital in Brooklyn, Nassau Hospital in Mineola, and North Country Community Hospital in Glen Cove.

